

# The GARZETTE

April 2000

Volume 10, Issue 4



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## The President's Pen

By David Adcock, KA4KKF

The 15<sup>th</sup> is almost here. Are you ready? A lot of people are getting ready to upgrade. Are you going to be one of them?

This spring may be very active. Are you ready? Contact Jeff Harrison (Gwinnett County E.C.) if you want to help ARES.

The club has a lot of talent in its members. The techfest was a great example of this. You missed a great one this year. It was fun. Hope to see you there next year.

As we move forward, the new ex-



ecutive committee is getting its feet on the ground.

I hope that you take an interest in your club and participate in some of the activities that are scheduled. There are a lot of jobs to do to keep the club running. If you feel that you can offer your time and ability,

then volunteer. Eventually everyone must move on to do something else. The old reliables move on to do other jobs. The young hams must pickup the baton. It's been this way through out history. But let's not forget the old-timer (experienced person). I don't like calling them old-timer. But it fits so well. They have experiences that we can benefit from. They can tell us how things were in the past and how to deal with things in the future. They have a

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Activities Corner

By Ike Chapman KG4GYM

I hope by now that you've all heard and read about the **GARS** Challenge 2000. If you have not had the chance to do so yet, the details and the rules are

on the **GARS** website at <http://www.gars.org>. The kickoff date was March 18, 2000 and it will run through March 17, 2001. At that time, we'll take a look at the

participation and interest and determine whether or not to renew it for the next year. I'm hoping that my printer sees lot of ac-

*(Continued on page 5)*

**THE GARZETTE**

*The GARZETTE* is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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*The GARZETTE* is created on a AMD7-333 MHz computer using Microsoft Publisher 2000 and Microsoft Office 2000.

*The GARZETTE* is published each month with the assistance of Joe Biddle, AD4PZ who interfaces with the printer. Larry Thill, W4LJT and Jack Herndon, WU4H do the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding, labeling, stamping and getting the end product to the Post Office each month. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

**Deadline for submissions is the 24th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.**

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All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor



## TECHFEST Y2K Can-a-thon

As an adjunct to the Y2K TechFest, the Can-a-thon which benefits the community through the Norcross Cooperative Ministries was a success. This co-op is one of five food banks in the county, however it supports the most traffic of the five. The co-op is a collective association of many denominations and churches within the county and provides to the needs of people in the area. Shirley Cabe of the co-op thankfully accepted the GARS club donation with sincere gratitude.

The donation consisted of three rather large boxes totaling over 65 lbs. And \$60.00 in cash. The boxes contained 82 individual food containers. The GARS donations were quality material from benevolent hearts, we and the community offer a hardy - Thank You All.

### *Are you ready and volunteering for Field Day 2000???*

73, Susan and Mike, AF4FO & K4HBI

♦♦♦

"My life has a superb cast but I can't figure out the plot." -- Ashleigh Brilliant

"The two most abundant things in the universe are hydrogen and stupidity." -- Harlan Ellison

## Field Day is Drawing Near!

Speaking of DRAWING! How is your artistic ability? Be a part of history and be seen on the Field Day 2000 Tee-Shirts?

This year, the Field Day Tee Shirt artwork will be member (or family of member) supplied. Get those pens/pencils dancing and have your artwork seen!

The contest is coming to a close. All drawings are due to me, either in person or email, by the April GARS meeting on Thursday, 4/20/00. (I prefer the drawings be on 8-1/2 by 11 inch paper.) I will then get the artwork to the webmaster for publication and the final vote will be held at the May Meeting on Thursday, 5/18/00. If you cannot make the meeting, I will accept your vote, electronically, no later than Wednesday, 5/17/00. But remember, only one vote per person, please.

Thank you and 73!

John Sokol, K9AOK

♦♦♦

"Thanks to the Interstate Highway System, it is now possible to travel from coast to coast without seeing anything." -- Charles Kuralt

"We're not lost. We're locationally challenged." -- John M. Ford

"A committee is a cul-de-sac down which ideas are lured and then quietly strangled." -- Sir Barnett Cocks

# The President's Pen

(Continued from page 1)

wealth of knowledge that we need. As we move forward with restructuring this year, the old-timer will play a big role in helping to educate the new kids. As I said last month, the club must pick up the role as educator and must use the best resource it has. The old-timers can fill this spot. Of course the young kids will want to move faster than light. But I'm sure, with a little patience, everyone will be able to work together and get things done.

Win (N1TWX) needs instructors to help with the education classes. It may be only for a certain night or for 6 weeks. If you can help, give Win a call.

The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society represents all amateur radio operators in the county. It must continue to provide leadership into the next century. I believe that it can.

73,  
David  
KA4KKF

## Editor's Desk

Well, the second issue is out. I'm getting accustomed to the software. HI! After two system problems and **4 virus attacks**, Windows lost the Publisher 2000 software! Oh well no one ever said Microsoft was a great software company; just great at marketing !

I am very glad to help the club by editing the newsletter. I will work into the rhythm very quickly. But I need your help. The newsletter is easy enough for me to assemble, but I need your input. Did you go to a GARS event last month? Want to go to a GARS event? Please sit down and write a short email to me so I could thoughts. Your contributions are invaluable. I really appreciate Steve Whatley for getting me Back and Earl an article and pictures



**I challenge each GARS member** to write one short article this year. Then my problem would be fitting them all in! But I will find a way.

Don't forget, if I run out of HAM material, I **will** put in the Garden Report, or something equally exciting (my son found a website all about foot odor....) Victor, W4VEG victorg@mindspring.com

## GARS

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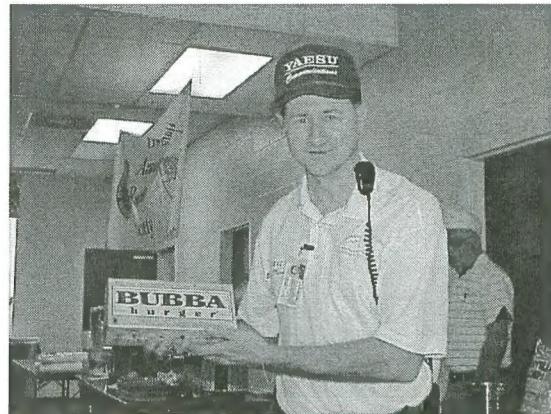
♦♦♦

# Tech Fest

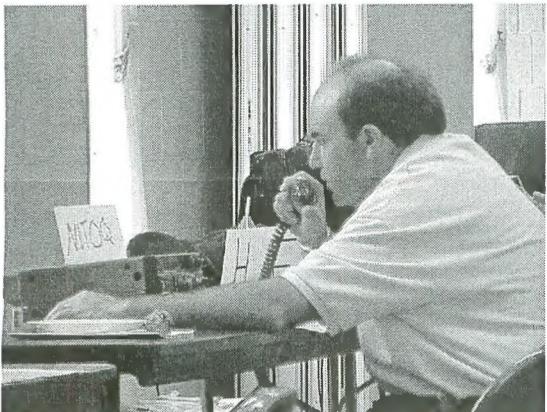
## March 11, 2000



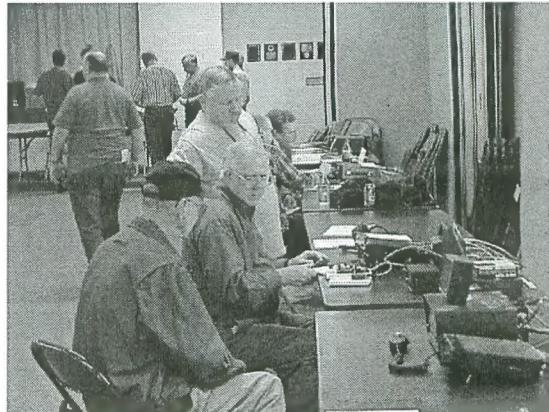
GEMA Van



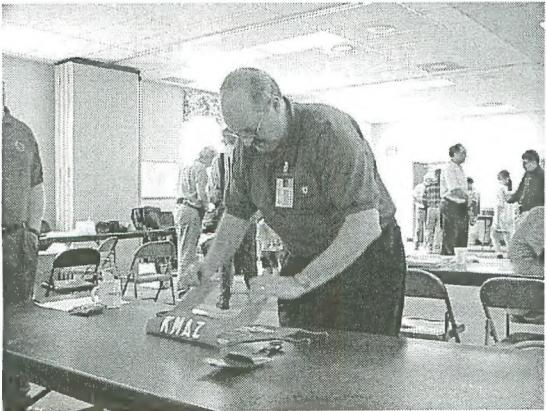
Bubba Burgers



Barry, N1TOQ



Displays at QRP



Lowry folding.....



VX-5R Owners Delight  
Larry, W4LJT Shows You How

## A Mathematical proof to becoming wealthy

Define variables:

P = Productivity  
W = Work  
E = Effort  
T = Time  
M = Money

### Assumptions

- 1.. Time is Money, or  $T = M$
- 2.. Productivity is Effort, or  $E = P$
- 3.. Productivity is Work performed in a given amount of Time, or  $P = W/T$  eq.1

1 Since  $T = M$ , we can substitute T for M in equation 1, from  $P = W/T$  to  $P = W/M$  eq 2

2 . Solving for M in eq. 2 , Money = Work / Productivity  
3. Since Productivity is equal to Effort - E, then Money = Work / Effort Eq. 3 QED

### So there we have it:

Lemma 1 As the effort increases while work is constant, you make less money

Lemma 2 As effort goes down and work is the same, then you make more money

Thus one can postulate: The less your effort is, the more money you'll make M= Work/effort Productivity should be as low as possible to be wealthy  $M = W/P$

Assuming you believe productivity takes effort, and time is money, then this elegant mathematical proof can be reduced to "the key to wealth is to do nothing".

## Activities Corner

*(Continued from page 1)*

tion over the next twelve months printing up certificates as fellow club members complete the various milestones relating to the individual challenges.

We've been contacted again this year by the March Of Dimes for their annual Walk-a-thon on April 29<sup>th</sup> at Vines Botanical Garden. Last year was the first year at this site and they asked us to come back to help out again. Our duties are to direct traffic into the parking areas and make sure that everyone parks so that the exit lanes are clear.

All you need to participate is a two-meter HT and a couple of hours. As of this writing I'm still trying to recruit an event co-ordinator and the necessary folks to staff the event, about 12 to 15 should be enough. If you're interested, please let me know.

April 29<sup>th</sup> is also the date for the Boy Scout Show at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds. Last year a group from **GARS** set up some radios and put on a demonstration during this event. The plan is to do the same again this year. If you're interested in helping out at this event contact me or Earl Whatley, AF4FG.

I'm also still trying to put together a combination event where we would set up some HF rigs on a Saturday afternoon and have some fun on the air. The event would serve as a radio demonstration, a training session

for Field Day, experience for those new to the HF bands, and a chance for those HF veterans to share their operating knowledge. We might even set up some grills and cook some hamburgers and hot dogs.

The target date for this event is late April or early May and I'm looking for two or three people to assist in planning this one.

I don't yet have the program for the April meeting nailed down. I'm working on several different ideas and will announce it on the net and the **GARS** Onelist email reflector as soon as the topic is finalized.

I've had several folks give me some ideas about activities and/or program topics and I'd like to hear from more of you. So if you've got an idea for a program you'd like to present or that you'd like to see please let know. The same goes for activities and other events. I've recently updated the activities list on the club web site and will attempt to keep it current with all upcoming events.

73 til next month,  
Ike, KE4GYM

\*\*\*



## GARS AT SPRING FLING

A ten year old boy can't imagine life without television, is surrounded by electronic toys and is often more familiar with computers and the Internet than his parents. You might think he wouldn't look at ham radio and that if he did it certainly wouldn't hold his interest. You'd be wrong.

Spring Fling is a camping event for Webelo Cub Scouts held each year at Scoutland on the shores of Lake Lanier. This year, half way between the BB gun range and the archery range, GARS set up a demonstration that attracted some 200 scouts and their parents. Its easy to see why a push up mast and a 10 meter beam might be considered an attractive nuisance because It certainly attracted attention and ham radio held it.

Carol Gann, KG4ETR, used displays she made to explain something about radio and how it works and Victor Gann, W4VEG, demonstrated Morse code. The boys might not understand all about radio and SOS might be all they know about code but they were enthusiastic about learning more. They learned more before they left and their parents showed more than a casual interest.

Steve Back, WB2OGY, and Earl Whatley, AF4FG, were operating HF in the back of the shelter and the boys got to see a practical demonstration of what they saw up front. The CQ WW DX contest was going strong and both 10 and 15 meters were hot. During the day 34 countries were contacted including Australia, Samoa and most of Europe. Most of these countries don't

enough to be OK. And as long as we keep demonstrating ham radio like this don't worry too much about attracting young people to an old hobby. Every thing is new to the young.

In addition to those mentioned above, scouts Ray Back and Matt Gann were a big help in setting things up and crowd control.

73, Earl Whatley AF4FG



*One-on-one is how its done.*

have a 3<sup>rd</sup> party agreement so the boys couldn't talk but they were fascinated by the quick and easy exchange with such distant countries. Some talked a bit on 2 meters but a grown up voice seems to induce mike fright at this age.

Maybe they liked it because radio has a voice. You can't talk to a Game Boy and a computer is just a machine, but ham radio has a personality and its technical aspects make it just cool

**GARS Next Scouting Event is April 29th at the Gwinnett County Fair Grounds.**

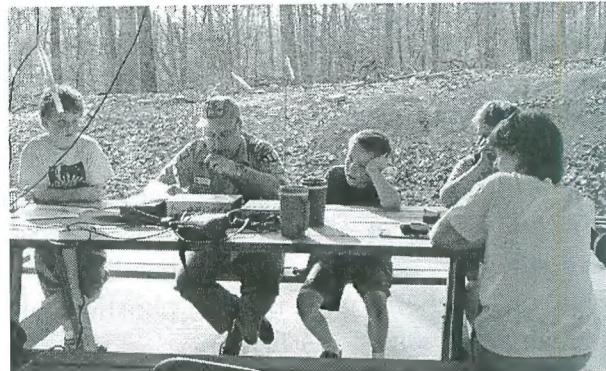
*Each year we seem to meet more HAMS who are impressed with GARS at Scout Expo. Scouts are very curious about how radio works. The look on their eyes the first time they hear an HF contact is priceless. Contact Earl, Victor, Carol or Rick Morris to help in this special event for Scouts and their parents. -Ed*

# GARS AT SPRING FLING

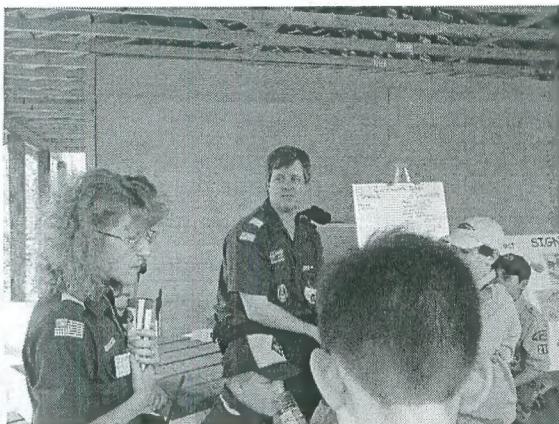
## Helping Scouts Learn



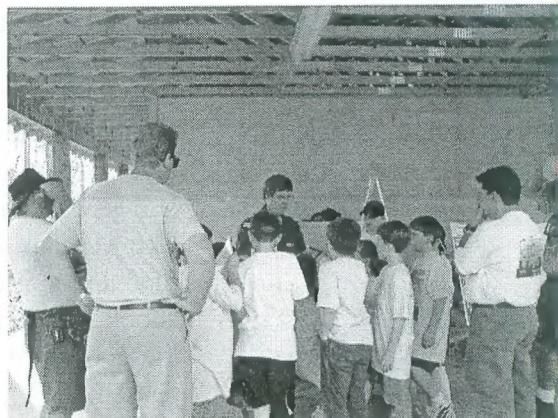
Earl explaining the log book.



Steve at the station with scouts.



Carol telling how radios work.



Victor introducing CW.



"We just talked to where?" Scouts learned new countries. .



"Insert Part A into,.....Oh just get the Duck Tape!"

# Forty Years a HAM: Howie Gould, W9HG

*Reprinted from GARS OneList*

Forty four years ago I bit my tongue and went into the FCC office in Boston and faced a stern looking young engineer in charge who quickly put me to the test with a morse code tape machine and as I shook all over I proceeded to copy a 5 wpm text, the FCC engineer still without a glint of any emotion on his face told me to send some code. After a minute or two as he left me there thinking about my fate he returned and passed me the written Novice exam papers and I proceeded to ponder over the questions and for those mathematical ones I had to use my brain, a pencil, and lots of thoughts with no calculator as they were not even invented then.

When I finished my paperwork the engineer took them and told me to wait outside the room in the hall with others. After what seemed to be hours, my name was called, there were no smiling faces to greet me or say congratulations just a secretary saying I passed and to go home and wait for my license. Oh, they also wanted two bucks.

Many, many, many months later an envelope arrived and lo and behold it was a genuine Novice License good for one year wow!!!!. I had a call sign KN1HHN boy oh boy was I in luck. I spent many a day and night crystal controlled running

75 watts on a home brewed rig on the low bands and there were what seemed to be thousands more just like me barely moving the key and as I progressed my speed over the coming months I would sneak into the General bands and listen to the big boys play the code.

Finally near the end of my one year Novice license I got the nerve up and the self confidence to go back to my friendly engineer in charge and take the General exam. Downtown Boston was where it was in the Custom House Building 10 stories up and the same folks were there and it was only on a certain day like Monday I think and now the machine spit out 13 WPM and I shook and I shook but somehow the good lord was with me and I passed.

I left the Custom House ready for my next venture in ham radio and boy was I feeling good because now I was a top dog in licensing for there was no Advanced or Extra Class then. There was some class A but nothing extra given to them.

Months later the General license arrived in the mail. Boy I was top dog now, I was into every frequency available, nothing held back, go for broke. My hand on the key developed speeds I never dreamed of and I was in with the big boys now.

Years later, 1967 to be exact, my big brother the ARRL whom I respected and thought the world revolved around convinced the FCC to pass an incentive licensing thing and I was now looking at the FCC taking away some of my General Class frequencies.

Once more I mustered my strength and self confidence and made the long trek to the Custom House to face my tormentors again but this time they had a special test available for me in the brand new Advanced Class license.

Oh yes, there were lots of tricky questions I never expected and there were fifty of them and not only that but they wanted me to draw out complete circuits of transmitters and Oscillators showing the supply voltages, biasing, and a full drawing of the final tank circuit up to the antenna. Whew! that was tough. I left the Custom House an Advanced class licensee and I remember saying to myself that I would never take another test that was forced upon me and I would remain an Advanced the rest of my amateur radio life.

That changed in 1993 when a local ham friend passed his Extra Class and insisted I take this computer program thing called Morse Academy and he was so convinced that I should do it that he gave me the computer and

## Howie, continued...

program. The computer was an old XT with 256K and two floppy drives, no hard drive.

In 6 weeks I went in to a volunteer examiner and passed the 20 wpm and written exam. Wow!!! they smiled at me, shook my hand, congratulated me, and asked me to be a volunteer examiner all in one breath

Incentive licensing created a set of standards that lasted for many years and it was because of this forced into higher class license thing that the differences between classes settled in and we all looked at being an Extra Class a tremendous hurdle because lets face it folks 20 wpm took a special skill to pass. So whenever we made it we knew we had gone and done the supreme sacrifice.

Now we have come to this date in time and my big brother again the ARRL and others went to great lengths to convince the FCC we need to drop the code requirements. This is not as disturbing as the points brought forward in this restructuring issue that the hobby is old and outdated and needs to make room for digital, video, and other modernistic means of communications going to be brought to us by the newer generation of hams.

What is too old and outdated in communications will not bring the newer hams to chat with us old timers so are we to remain at

odds forever? is the newer stuff better? at what price? and most important of all when?

What we need to do is to bring ourselves together, us from the old school and those new hams who are biting at the bit to learn the ropes and together we can build a future for the hobby. I have seen many intelligent hams stay with the Technician License only because of the morse code hurdle they could not overcome and they deserve a slot with the rest of us aging hams if not for the betterment of the hobby then for the knowledge they can pass on to those of us who think we are too old to learn any more.

Who is to be the judge of who knows the most? those of us who went down the hard road to a license or those who have consumed endless digital and complex circuitry theory used in systems of today?

We are at the cross roads of a new millennium that I for one am glad to be alive to experience.. Let us not greet this start of a new outlook on our hobby with doomsday attitudes, instead lets work together to make sure that our hobby is around for others to enjoy long after we are gone.

A lot of speculating is going down among the older hams that once the flood gates are opened to the HF bands it will spell the end of our hobby. Nonsense, the very thing that we all came into the hobby for will prevail and

the hobby will grow and become better for it. If we always remind each other when we are on the air that our signal is good or bad, and we remember the protocol of being polite and respecting ones right to use a frequency when they were there first, and passing on valuable information pertaining to the hobby to one another, it will be a win win situation for us all.

"There must be more to life than having everything."

-- Maurice Sendak

"The big thieves hang the little ones."

--Czech proverb

"It's not that I'm afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens." -- Woody Allen

"Fools rush in where fools have been before." -- Unknown

"It has yet to be proven that intelligence has any survival value." -- Arthur C. Clarke

"Pay no attention to what the critics say; there has never been set up a statue in honor of a critic." -- Jean Sibelius

"All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence, and then success is sure." -- Mark Twain

"Lack of money is no obstacle. Lack of an idea is an obstacle." -- Ken Hakuta

## Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

#### **Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers**

Old Hickory House

5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody  
Dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.  
Talk In 145.410(-)

#### **Kennehoochee ARC**

First United Methodist Church in Marietta  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

#### **Atlanta Radio Club**

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza  
Meeting is at 7:30 PM  
Talk In -146.820(-)

#### **N.E. Georgia ARC**

Jefferson Civic Center  
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson  
Meeting is at 6:30 PM  
Talk In - 147.225(+)

### Second Wednesday

#### **North Fulton Amateur Radio League**

Ryan's Steak House  
Alpharetta Highway (Hwy 9), Alpharetta  
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

### Second Thursday

#### **Alford Memorial Radio Club**

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road  
Lilburn  
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

#### **East Atlanta LAN**

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
Dunwoody  
Meeting is at 10:00 AM  
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

### Third THURSDAY



#### **Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**

Central Baptist Church  
Gwinnett Drive  
Lawrenceville

Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.  
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)



## Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

**GARS** publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

### First Sunday

WCARS VEC

2:00 PM

(Except July and September)

Johnson High School

3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainsville  
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

### First Saturday

9:00AM

Clayton County Emergency  
Management Building

7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro  
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

### Second Tuesday

7:00PM

Walton EMC

3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA  
(770)498-7759

### Second Saturday

CA VEC

8:30 AM

Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Hal Martin, KI4RD  
(770)978-9160

### Third Saturday

CA VEC

9:00AM

Marietta First United Methodist Church  
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave  
Marietta  
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ  
(770)955-3171

### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7:00 PM

United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770)942-6466.

### Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC

7:00 PM

St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Road  
Lilburn  
Headphones Provided!  
Howie Gould, W9HG  
(770)921-8362



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## GARS Communication System

**6 Meter Repeater**  
53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz  
82.5 PL

**Main Repeater Site**  
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

**2 Meter Repeater**  
147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL

**Main Repeater Site**  
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

**Backup Repeater Site**  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

**Remote Receive Sites**

Bogart Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

**70 Cm Repeater**  
444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL

**Main Repeater Site**  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

**Remote Receive Sites**

*Under construction*  
Bogart Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

**APRS**  
144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR/Relay



**12 Store Buying Power!**

**HAM RADIO OUTLET**  
WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

**ATLANTA, GA**  
6021 Brierley Hwy., 30340  
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Ph: 440-0, Mgr:  
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- 1.5W standard
- SWR option
- Alpha-numeric display
- Compact & easy to key

Customer Satisfaction November 30th  
Call For Low Price!

**FT-847**

Ultimate Base Station, HF, VHF, UHF

- 190W HF/AM, 50W VHF/2m
- DSP • Full Duplex Cross-Band
- 1200/9600 Baud Packet Ready

Call for Low Price!

**FT-300DM**

• 1M 70W Mobile • Wide Band RX  
• AM Aircraft RX • Dual Watch  
• 9600 Baud Compatible • Alpha Numeric Display

Call For Low Pricing!

**FT-1000MP** HF Transceiver

- Enhanced Digital Signal Processing
- Dual RX
- Cooling GSB Filter built-in
- 100W Power supply built-in

Call Now For Low Pricing!

**VX-1R**

FM/440 Sub-Mini HI

- 250 Memory Channels
- SWR output
- Receives 75-200MHz plus 4M BCB (Cell Band Blocked)
- Lithium Ion Battery

Call Now For Your Low Price!

**FT-50RD**

2M/440MHz Compact HT

- DMR, Decode, Paging Built-In
- Alpha numeric display
- Wide Band receive
- Auto Saver
- 112 Memories
- MIL Spec
- Hidden scanning

Call For Your Low Pricing!

**FT-100** HF/6M/2M/70CM Transceiver

- Compact Transceiver w/ Detachable front panel
- Rx 100Hz to 97MHz (full blocked)
- Tx 100W 100-6M, CW 2M, 25W 70CM
- Built-in DSP, 100W, CW keyer
- 200 Memories

Call Now For Low Pricing!

**FT-8100R** 2M/440 Mobile

- Ultra Compact • 50x35x 2m x40
- 110 memories • Wide Band RX
- 100W exc. • Removable front panel w/ ext. YSK-1100

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## Upcoming Events

*Committee Chairs:*

*Lets fill this feature with dates and events to keep GARS members looking ahead!*



**January 2000**

Meeting Feature:  
Special Event

**February 2000**

Dog Show  
Club Elections

**March 2000**

11 Tech Fest  
16 Metro Crime Force

**April 2000**

20 GARS Meeting  
29 Scout Expo  
29 March of Dimes

**May 2000**

18 GARS Meeting  
Field Day Preparation

**June 2000**

15 GARS Meeting

**24-25 Field Day**

**July 2000**

20 GARS Meeting  
Special Event

**August 2000**

17 GARS Meeting  
Special Event

**September 2000**

21 GARS Meeting  
Special Event

**October 2000**

19 GARS Meeting  
Special Event

**November 2000**

16 GARS Meeting  
Special Event

**December 2000**

GARS Christmas Party